

Recertification process for Traditional Health Workers: How to Renew your Certification

1. **How long is traditional health worker certification good for?**
 - a. Traditional Health Worker certification is good for three years (**36 months**).
 - b. If you submit a renewal application with a different email address than your original application, please contact us at thw.program@state.or.us, as soon as possible, otherwise you will be issued a new THW number. Please, always provide us with a permanent email address.**
2. **Traditional Health Worker Continuing Education Requirements**
 - a. To maintain certification status, all THWs shall complete at least 20 hours Plus one and half hour of Oral health Authority approved continuing education during every three-year renewal period.
 - b. Family support specialists and youth support specialists shall complete at least 40 hours of Authority approved continuing education during every three-year renewal period. Two topics must be included within the 40 hours:
 - c. The application of “means counseling” and “safety planning;”
 - d. The use of lived experience and ethical practice.
 - e. Continuing education hours taken in excess of the total number required may not be carried over to the next renewal period.
 - f. Requests for approval of continuing education courses may come from the hosting organization or from a certified THW attending the training or event
3. **When and how does someone need to renew their certification?**
 - a. Your certification is good for three years from the date of certification
 - b. Individuals will need to submit renewal application 60 days before their current certification expires (THW application; check “renewal” box at the top of the application).
 - c. They will be required to earn and document **20** continuing education hours during their renewal process. In addition, they will need to finish one and half hour to three hours **1.5 – 3** hours of Oral Health Training All that information related to oral health Training can be found on our OHA/OEI Website at
 - i. **Peer Support Specialist (PSS) and Peer Wellness Specialist (PWS)** are required to complete. Link: [THW Oral Health for Peer Support and Peer Wellness Training Program](#),

- ii. Effective May 13, 2019: **Community Health Worker (CHW), Personal Health Navigator (PHN) and Birth Doula** are also required to complete
Link: [THW Oral Health for CHW, PHN and Doula](#).
- d. Another background check will be running again during the renewal process
- e. All Oregon State Certified and approved Traditional Health Workers are valid for 3 years (36 Months) from the date of issue (OAR **410-180-0320**).
- f. The Authority awards continuing education hours for:
 - i. Additional THW training offered by a training program; and
 - ii. Any other Authority approved training or event.
 - iii. Any Non OHA Approved trainings pending a review by OHA Authority
 - iv. 10 hours of the CEUs can be from Online course (50%)
 - v. 10 hours of the CEUs can be in class in person interaction (50%)

Step 1: Complete your required continuing education hours

- Current training programs can be found here at our website and can be reached directly through their Link at <https://www.oregon.gov/OHA/OEI/Pages/THW-OHA-Approved-Training-CEU.aspx>

Step 2: Complete your Traditional health Worker Renewal Application

- <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/OEI/Pages/THW-Become-Certified.aspx>

Step 3: Background Check Process for Traditional health worker

- <https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=248081>
- Notes on Completing background Check weighing Test:
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/OEI/Documents/THW-Background-Check.pdf>

Step 4: Submit your application renewal form

- **Send your fully completed application and documents to:**
Traditional Health Worker Program
Office of Equity and Inclusion
421 SW Oak St. Suite 750
Portland, Oregon 97204

Fax: 971-673-1128

Email: thw.program@state.or.us